

Balfour Sure U. S. Will Strike Heavily

War Steps of Forty Days Remarkable, He Says in Farewell

Predicts Triumph With America's Aid

Praises Press, "Animated by Highest Patriotic Principles"

Washington, May 24.—In a farewell address to the American people to-day, Arthur James Balfour, British Foreign Secretary, warmly expressed thanks for the kindness and sympathy with which the British War Mission has been received in this country, declared what the United States has accomplished during the forty days since it entered the war most remarkable, and said he would carry back to the Allies across the water his belief that with a little delay as human imperfections allow, the full and decisive weight of America would be thrown into the struggle for democracy.

The message was delivered through the Washington correspondents, gathered at the National Press Club to hear the last speech of the British statesman's visit.

Moved by Warmth of Reception

"Gentlemen," said Mr. Balfour, "I came to the United States conscious, of course of the importance of the mission which I have been entrusted by the government; conscious that the mission from the very nature of the case was one of the most important in which either of our two countries has ever concerned itself; conscious that the very condition of the world in which we lived gave weight and importance to every action, to every word, and to every report of every word which might take place during its existence.

"The kindness with which we were received, the warmth of the welcome which reached us from all parts of the country, soon made it plain the strictly and narrowly business side of our mission was not the only one which was important at the present juncture.

America's Great Destiny

"For my own part I have felt more deeply than I find it easy to express the kindness of the reception which you have given to the mission in general and to myself in particular. That kindness has been shown me, lavishly shown me, in Washington. It was shown not less fully and not less lavishly in New York and in Richmond, and I only mourn that the inevitable exigencies of public business make it impossible for me to visit other parts of the United States, to communicate directly and personally with men in the Middle West, in the Far West and in other portions of this colossal territory, which is already occupied by the most powerful community in the world, and which is, I think, destined to perform great sacrifices for an ideal which has in it nothing of selfishness, nothing of the petty appetite for power, nothing but a pure and unstained desire to benefit the cause of civilization and of mankind.

Compliments the Press

"Gentlemen, you have shown, during the month's experience which I have had of your labors, that the American press is animated by the highest patriotic principles; that it is incapable, or has shown itself, so far as I am concerned, as incapable, of misrepresenting or perverting in the smallest particular anything which I may have said or done. I know that it is to you and your friends that any word I have spoken, be it worth listening to or not, has been heard, and that the reachers of the press have been far surpassed by the reality. I expected, from what I knew of American friends on the other side of the Atlantic, that I should be received with kindness and courtesy and with sympathy; but the kindness, the courtesy and the sympathy which I have received are far in excess of anything which I dared hope for or anything which I can pretend even to myself to have deserved.

"Friends in Very Truth"

"It is a sad thought to me that the moment of parting has come, and that those whom I looked upon as my friends, before I knew them, and who have become my friends in very truth and indeed since I knew them, I shall be separated from, at all events, during the continuance of the present war. After that, may it be my happy lot to return in a less responsible and official position to renew the connection for a moment severed by the tragic events in which we are all equally concerned.

"But, gentlemen, the mission could not stay here forever. It has received a welcome which none of its members will forget—and to me the pleasant duty, on my own behalf and on behalf of my friends, of saying to you, and to all whom you can reach, how deeply we thank the American public for what they have done.

"There are those who have said that the preparations made by the United States are proceeding slowly and haltingly, and that a country which has been in the war for some forty days ought to have done far more than has actually been accomplished. For my own part, I think those who speak in accents like that know very little of the actual way in which public life is run, and must be carried on in free countries.

"At the beginning of the forty days of which I speak no preparations had been made; the country was anxiously, indeed, watching the events. It had not time to make any of the preparations

PASSING ON THE SWORD



War Missions Laid Plans to Make U. S. And Britain Dry

Washington, May 24.—The recent conferences of officials with the foreign war missions, it was learned to-day, have included full discussions of the question of war time prohibition, which it has been concluded will eventually become a necessity both in the United States and England.

It is probable, however, that prohibition in the United States will come in easy stages, with the elimination of distilled spirits first, and a later ban on beer, should the grain situation demand drastic conservation steps.

It is considered likely that the pending food control legislation will include some form of restrictions on the manufacture of spirituous liquors, though it is known that the food control administration is not urging this at the present time. Rather does the move originate with the anti-liquor forces.

In England, it is stated, plans have already been formulated for absolute prohibition about November 1, when the available supply of malt already in storage will be exhausted. This final step will be reached, it is said, by gradual stages, for the British government is not blind to the extreme difficulty of enforcing prohibition on the English laboring man.

Smoke Bombs Screen Liner from U-Boats

Implements 18 Inches Long Tested by French Ship

Officers of a French steamship told yesterday of experimenting with smoke bombs on the first day out.

The bombs are eighteen inches long and four inches in diameter and, it was said, would ignite the moment they hit the water. They gave out great clouds of smoke which effectively hid the steamship, it was said.

A Plattsburg Panorama

What's doing among the boys in the Officers' Reserve Training Camp at Plattsburg is told in picture and story in a full page of next Sunday's Tribune.

There's a mighty interesting article by Frances Fisher Byer, an interview with Colonel Wolfe, and striking pictures of many of the embryo officers for our first half million troops.

Don't miss this page of Plattsburg. It will show you better than any pictures or story could separately just how the pick of the nation's red-blooded men are fitting themselves to lead our armies against the enemy. Tell your newsdealer to-day you must have The Sunday Tribune for May 27.

Senate to Cut Revenue Bill to \$1,250,000,000

Finance Committee Throws Out Section Making Tax on Incomes Retroactive

Second Class Mail Increase Dropped

Methods of Levying on Excess Profits Changed—Slashing Only Begun

(From The Tribune Bureau)

Washington, May 24.—Virtually agreeing to raise only one and a quarter billions of dollars by the new revenue bill, instead of nearly two billions, as planned in the measure passed by the House yesterday, the Senate Finance Committee to-day made three slashing changes in the bill, as follows:

1. The retroactive income tax, imposing an additional 33 1/3 per cent on the income taxes for the calendar year of 1916 (the tax which is paid before June 30, 1917), was stricken from the bill. This wiped out an estimated revenue of \$108,000,000.
2. The increase in second class mail rates was stricken out.
3. The excess profits tax was changed from the present system of taxing all profits in excess of the average profits before the war. The pre-war profits will be determined either by the three years or the five years prior to the war. The English use the three-year basis. It is probable that the tax on these "excess profits" will be at the same rate the House proposed to be levied on profits in excess of 8 per cent, or 16 per cent.

To Tax All Advertising

In lieu of the increase in second class mail rates the Senate committee agreed to impose a tax on all advertising, whether in newspapers, magazines, billboards, streetcars or anywhere else. No agreement was reached in committee as to the amount of this tax, but members to-night expected that it would be about 2 per cent.

The committee members seemed to think that they had just begun to make changes in the House bill. The measure is not yet formally before the committee, since the brief session of the Senate to-day did not permit the bill to be brought over from the House and be formally referred to the Finance Committee. However, the text of the measure was before the committee, which enabled it to decide on amendments.

The announcement by Chairman Kitchin, of the House Ways and Means Committee, in the House yesterday, that the President heartily approved the revenue bill, and did not desire it changed, caused no surprise in the Senate, and no attention was paid to it. The Finance Committee began throwing most of the bill into the wastebasket and rewriting the discarded sections just as had been predicted in The Tribune, ignoring the suggestion of the President.

Case of Tariff Bill Cited

Senators to-day pointed out that the President was quoted, immediately after the passage of the Underwood tariff bill by the House as endorsing every letter in that measure. After the Senate had made several hundred amendments, however, the President did not seem displeased, and has been pointing with pride to the bill ever since.

Senators also pointed out that Mr. Wilson had heartily endorsed the Glass Currency bill after it passed the House, but that the Senate had adopted hundreds of amendments to the measure, and the President approved the measure and spoke highly of it afterward.

The committee is considering a tax upon parcel post packages smaller than that on express shipments. A parcel post tax, Senators say, should be considered a freight rather than a postal tax.

Further changes in the inheritance, tariff, freight, passenger and liquor taxes also are being considered by the committee. Professor Taussig, chairman of the Tariff Commission, discussed the 10 per cent additional tariff levied today on the cost of shipping. The committee believed this to be more a matter of postal administration than of taxation.

House Against Heavy Taxation

Probably the most important action to-day was the decision not to raise the full 50 per cent of the war's cost each year by the bill. It is virtually certain that the bill as it will finally be enacted will not provide for the raising of more than one and a quarter billions, and it is far more likely to be a little less.

The feeling of the House is against raising one-half the war expenditures by taxation which might throttle business. A large contingent of both houses are made this year business may be so depressed and profits so reduced next year that it will be difficult to raise the amount of money desired, either by bonds or taxation.

Republican Leader Mann voiced this sentiment when he declared the House bill would "kill the goose that laid the golden eggs."

The House passed the bill yesterday not because it approved the measure that had been submitted, but because it was frankly and openly passing the job of redrafting the bill along to the Senate.

Completion of the Senate committee's redrafting work within a week or possibly ten days, to be followed by immediate consideration of the bill in the Senate, was the prediction to-night of Chairman Simmons.

Italians Break Line Near Trieste; Take 9,000 Prisoners

Western Offensive Gave Italy Chance, Says Gen. Maurice

British Military Director Declares German Morale Is Weakening

Smash Austrian Defence System on Carso Plateau

130 Aerob Lead Way in Bombing Attack

British Batteries Pound the Hostile Front for Ten Hours

London, May 24.—Continuous pressure by the Franco-British armies on the West front has not only made possible the successful Italian offensive but has prevented a contemplated drive by the Germans against Northern Italy, according to Major General F. B. Maurice, chief director of military operations at the British War Office.

He also declared the British thus far in the battle of Arras had gained four times the amount of territory won in the entire Battle of the Somme and with half the loss. The great number of prisoners taken, he thought, indicated a weakening of the German morale, and he pointed to the fact that these captures continued.

General Maurice also had high praise to accord the work of the French during the last week, which he said was far more important strategically than the map indicates.

"The British have been for the last week," said General Maurice, "in the midst of one of those lulls which are necessary in the development of long continued modern battles. The present lull is exactly like the lulls during the Battle of the Somme. The enemy's communications during the last week are interesting as indicating the loss of morale and the jumpiness of his troops, who repeatedly report the development of a British offensive in spots where we never made the slightest offensive move beyond the usual artillery work.

General Maurice attaches great significance to the continuance of captures of Germans by the Entente forces on the Franco-Belgian front.

"The German army," he commented, "has done everything to impress the men that they must not surrender. Von Hindenburg, recently issued an order to every unit that 'no commander should allow his men to surrender under any circumstances; any soldier giving himself up is committing an act of treason, for which he will be duly punished after the war; any commander who surrenders ground will be held summarily to account.'"

Pan-Germans Say Renouncing Gains Means Revolution

Warn Chancellor War Aims Must Not Disappoint People

(From The Tribune Bureau)

Washington, May 24.—According to advices to the State Department, "Vorwärts," the semi-official German Socialistic paper, published on May 22 the text of a letter addressed to the Chancellor by the Pan-German Union in proof of the reports that the Pan-Germans had threatened the government. The letter stated that there was bitterness bordering on desperation in Germany on account of the doubt surrounding the imperial government's war aims.

The letter urges the Chancellor to state unmistakably what are Germany's war aims, and says that unless these aims correspond with the desires of the people and with their sacrifices in this war there will be such disappointment and bitterness that the people will rise and sweep away the monarchy. It warns the Chancellor that any renouncing of Germany's victories "will have for immediate consequence a revolution—the word must be spoken."

The reply of the Chancellor is somewhat sharp, and reminds the Pan-Germans that their duty to the crown is to wait and not force the government to take a position it is not ready to formulate. He adds that either it is true that a revolution would threaten or that it is not. If it is true, then the responsibility lies with those who have not combated such a tendency. If it is not true, then he can only look upon the matter as a threat and an attempt of a minority to force the hand of the leaders of the government.

In comment the "Vorwärts" states that the Socialist leader Scheideemann's mention of revolution in his Reichstag speech caused widespread indignation in Germany. It was only possible for such influential factors as the Pan-Germans to make such statements, it was said.

Marshal's Aid Says Joffre and Viviani Won U. S. Army's Help

Quoted in Paris as Asserting Their Intervention Obtained American Division

Paris, May 24.—The "Temps" quotes a member of the immediate entourage of Marshal Joffre on the innumerable ways in which the warmth of American sentiment toward France was manifested and adds:

"Thanks to the intervention of M. Viviani and Marshal Joffre, an American division of from 25,000 to 30,000 men will soon arrive in France."

Trieste Dominates Adriatic

Should Trieste fall the domination of the Adriatic would pass with it. The Austrians have their main naval base at Pola, at the point of the peninsula south of Trieste, but it is served by only two rail lines, the more important of which runs through Trieste, while the other would come under indirect artillery fire the moment the Italian armies reached Opicina, just north of Trieste. There is also another Austrian naval base at Cattaro, on the Lower Adriatic, but it lacks rail communication. Fiume, the chief Austrian submarine base, is clear across the base of the Italian peninsula and is not immediately menaced by the Italian drive.

Trieste is far from having fallen, however. The strip of territory over which the Italian armies must operate is one of great difficulty for an attacking force, and it has been elaborately fortified. It is a high plateau of inter-twisted lava formations, with frequent abrupt heights and scarcely any main lines of approach. The coast region, naturally, is the most promising for an Italian advance, but the bulge Cadorna has driven out over the Carso threatens, if extended, to cut the railways into Trieste.

The official account of the fighting issued at Rome to-day, reads:

"On the Carso yesterday, after ten hours of violent bombardment, the gallant troops of the Third Army assaulted and broke through the well-organized lines of the enemy from Castagnavizza to the sea. While we were heavily engaging the enemy on the left, our troops, after carrying enemy trenches in the center and on the right, occupied part of the area south of the Castagnavizza-Boscomato road, passed Boscomato and captured Jamiano, the last